PTO/SB/30 (5/2000)

Approved for use through xx/xx/xxxx. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST **FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Exa	amine	er Na	me	
				 -

Application Number 10/088,114 Filing Date July 18, 2002 First Named Inventor H. INOUE et al. Group Art Unit 3746 Charles G. Freay Attorney Docket Number NIP-275

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTOISBI29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which establishes RCE practice.

1.	a.	bmission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 21, 2004. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Other
2.		scellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for
	b.	a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other
3.	Fe	es The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
		The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
		i. 🛛 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(e)
		ii. 🔀 Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
		iii. Other
	b.	☐ Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
	C.	Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED					
Name (Print/Type)	Gene W. Stockman	Registration No. (Attorne	ey/Agent)	21,021	
Signature	Jene W Stockman	Date	Septem	ber 8, 2004	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope address to:				
Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:				
Name (Print/Type)				
Signature	Date			
comments on Office, Washi	Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark 1900, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the			

following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231. 09/09/2004 SDENBOB1 00000059 10088114

01 FC:1801 02 EC+1252

770.00 OP 420.00 OP